

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A system that facilitates representing a relational database in a different format, comprising a declarative description component that generates a file and facilitates generating data in an implementation-neutral, declarative format based upon an eXtensible Markup Language (XML) syntax that represents the relational database, the data is stored in the file.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, the data is generated from relational database schema information.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2, the schema information is in the form of metadata.

4. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, the declarative description component derives logical and physical information from the relational database.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4, the physical information is harvested directly from schema information of the relational database.

6. (Original) The system of claim 4, the logical information is generated with annotation information associated with the relational database.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6, the annotation information is obtained at least one of manually by a user and automatically by the system.

8. (Currently amended) The system of claim 6, the logical information describes a relationship between at least two tables of the relational database.
9. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, ~~the declarative description component is based upon an XML syntax~~ further comprising a mapping component, associated with the declarative description component, that receives the data and maps the data to at least one of an object component or an XML component.
10. (Original) The system of claim 1, the data is segmented into smaller data portions.
11. (Original) The system of claim 1, the data is segmented to allow logical extensions thereof.
12. (Original) The system of claim 1, the data is a logical view of metadata of the relational database.
13. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, the declarative description component generates the data with sufficient metadata to allow generation and/or execution of create, read, update, and delete operations against the relational database.
14. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, the declarative description component derives physical information from the relational database to generate the data, which physical information is regenerated each time the description component executes against the database.
15. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, the data is updated by executing the declarative description component against the database to overwrite the data.

16. (Original) The system of claim 1, the updated data preserves user-supplied extensions.

17. (Original) The system of claim 1, an application using the data initiates an update process of the data.

18. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising a classification component that performs an automated function, the classification component employs at least one of a probabilistic-based analysis or statistical-based analysis to infer that an automated function be automatically performed.

19. (Currently amended) The system of claim 18, the automated function automatically determines at least one of when the data will be updated and what location will be updated.

20. (Original) The system of claim 18, the classification component is a support vector machine.

21. (Currently amended) The system of claim 18, the automated function includes automatically annotating physical information representative of the relational database to generate logical information associated with the relational database.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, the automated function further includes returning a degree of certainty that annotation of the physical information is correct.

23. (Original) A computer operating in accordance with the system of claim 1.

24. (Currently amended) A system that represents a relational schema of a relational database in a different format, comprising a declarative description component that receives the relational schema in the form of at least metadata and generates a data file in a non-procedural declarative language format based upon an eXtensible Markup Language (XML) syntax representative of a logical view thereof.

25. (Currently amended) The system of claim 24, the declarative description component derives logical and physical information from the metadata, which physical information is derived directly from the metadata, and which logical information includes annotations of the physical information.

26. (Original) The system of claim 25, the annotation information is added incrementally.

27. (Original) The system of claim 24, the data file is segmented into smaller data files to allow logical extensions thereof.

28. (Original) The system of claim 24, the data file is stored local to the database.

29. (Original) The system of claim 24, the declarative description component runs against the relational database from a location remote from the relational database.

30. (Original) The system of claim 24, the relational database is distributed across at least two network locations such that the declarative description component runs against each location database to generate respective data files.

31. (Original) The system of claim 30, the respective data files are retrieved and processed to reconstruct the relational database.

32. (Original) The system of claim 30, the data files are retrieved and processed by corresponding applications in a disconnected environment.
33. (Original) The system of claim 24, the format is one of implementation-neutral and implementation-specific.
34. (Withdrawn) A method of representing a relational database, comprising: accessing relational schema information of the relational database; and generating declarative description data of the relational schema.
35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, the declarative description data is based upon an XML syntax.
36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, further comprising generating physical information from the relational schema information, the physical information is part of the declarative description data.
37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, further comprising generating logical information by annotating physical information from the relational schema information.
38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, further comprising segmenting the declarative description data into more manageable data.
39. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, further comprising updating the declarative description data when the relational database is changed.
40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, the relational schema information is metadata.

41. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, further comprising reconstructing the relational database in a disconnected environment by processing the declarative description data.
42. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, restricting access to the declarative description data according to user profile privileges.
43. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, restricting access to the relational database while providing open access to the declarative description data.
44. (Withdrawn) A method of representing a relational database, comprising:  
accessing metadata of the relational database;  
generating physical data from the metadata according to a declarative description language;  
generating logical data by annotating the physical data using the declarative description language; and  
storing the physical and logical information in a data file.
45. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 44, further comprising accessing the data file to reconstruct the structure and/or data of the relational database in an offline environment.
46. (Withdrawn) A system that facilitates representing a relational database in a different format, comprising:  
means for accessing metadata of the relational database;  
means for generating physical data from the metadata according to a declarative description language;  
means for generating logical data by annotating the physical data using the declarative description language; and  
means for storing the physical and logical information in a data file.